

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TEL AV 08228 301611Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 COME-00 H-02 SCS-06 CA-01
/029 W

-----111334 011354Z /40

R 300655Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3905

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 8228

PASS EB/OCA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, BDIS, IS
SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN POSSIBLE TRADE COMPLAINT

REF: (A) STATE 154635; (B) 157695 (C) TEL AVIV 7690

1. EMBASSY ORIGINALLY BECAME INVOLVED IN SPIEGELSTEIN CASE AT DEPARTMENT SCS REQUEST OF MAY 22, 1978. THE CONSULAR SECTION FOUND THAT SPIEGELSTEIN, THE HAIFA PORT AUTHORITY, AND HAIFA CUSTOMS HOUSE HAVE EXCHANGED NUMEROUS LETTERS. IN THIS CORRESPONDENCE THE HAIFA AUTHORITIES HAVE REPEATEDLY POINTED OUT THAT SPIEGELSTEIN MUST OBTAIN APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATION AND MOVE HIS GOODS OUT OF THE PORT STORAGE AREA. THE PORT AUTHORITIES HAVE EVEN OFFERED TO NEGOTIATE

THE STORAGE FEES, AS THEY ARE GROWING INTO FIVE FIGURES, AND MAY BE ABLE TO GRANT A REDUCTION OF UP TO 50 PERCENT. HOWEVER, IF SPIEGELSTEIN DOES NOT TAKE ACTION SOON, THE PORT AUTHORITY WILL AUTHORIZE THE PUBLIC SALE OF THE GOODS.

2. SPIEGELSTEIN WAS GIVEN THIS INFORMATION BY LETTER ON JUNE 21, 1978. HE WAS ADVISED THAT EMBASSY OFFICIALS CANNOT GIVE LEGAL ADVICE OR ACT AS LEGAL AGENTS AND THAT HE SHOULD CONTACT ONE OF THE ATTORNEYS ON THE LIST SENT TO HIM ON JUNE 5, 1978, IF HE HAD LEGAL PROBLEMS WITH
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 TEL AV 08228 301611Z

THE HAIFA AUTHORITIES.

3. DUE TO REFTEL A, EMBASSY REQUESTED JACOB SASSOWER, THE AMERICAN CONSULAR AGENT IN HAIFA AND ALSO OWNER AND MANAGER OF A WELL KNOWN CUSTOMS CLEARING OFFICE, TO INVESTIGATE SPIEGELSTEIN'S CASE. SASSOWER REPORTED THAT PORT DUES, INCLUDING WHARFAGE,

PORTAGE AND STORAGE, ARE CALCULATED TOGETHER WITH CUSTOMS DUTIES AND ALL OTHER TAXES AND PRESENTED IN ONE BILLING WHEN GOODS ARE CLEARED. IT IS NOT REPEAT NOT CUSTOMARY TO SEND STORAGE BILLS DIRECTLY TO CUSTOMERS. HE CONFIRMED THAT PORT AUTHORITY REGULATIONS AUTHORIZE THE PUBLIC SALE OF GOODS NOT CLEARED THREE MONTHS AFTER ARRIVAL.

4. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT ALL PORT AUTHORITY ACTIONS ARE LEGAL AND CONFORM TO THEIR REGULATIONS.

5. SPIEGELSTEIN SHOULD BE ADVISED THAT HE MUST ACT QUICKLY TO SALVAGE

THE GOODS. SASSOWER IS READY TO ASSIST IN TRYING TO OBTAIN ANY POSSIBLE REDUCTION IN STORAGE FEES.

6. WE HAVE ALSO RECEIVED ANOTHER LETTER FROM SPIEGELSTEIN DATED JUNE 15, 1978. AS THIS LETTER PREDATES OUR LETTER OF JUNE 21 TO SPIEGELSTEIN AND CONTAINS PERSONAL SLURS AGAINST PORT AUTHORITY PERSONNEL AND THE ISRAELI LEADERSHIP, WE ARE NOT RESPONDING TO IT.
LEWIS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TELAV08228
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780272-0623
Format: TEL
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978061/aaaaaaqr.tel
Line Count: 83
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d8fb067c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 154635, 78 TEL AVIV 7690
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2129454
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN POSSIBLE TRADE COMPLAINT
TAGS: BEXP, BDIS, IS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d8fb067c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014